

Unemployment benefits for state employees

If you've been laid off due to the lack of a state budget, the Employment Security Department is here to help!

Applying for unemployment benefits

You should apply during the first week after being laid off, and continue to file a claim each week to receive ongoing benefits.

The fastest way to apply is online at www.esd.wa.gov (24 hours a day), or you may apply by phone Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at **800-318-6022**.

Have the following information ready, whether you apply online or by phone.

- Your Social Security number.
- Names and addresses of all your employers during the last two years.
- Dates you worked for all your employers during the last two years. Use your best estimate if you don't remember the exact dates.
- The reason you became unemployed.
- If you are not a U.S. citizen, have your employment authorization and expiration date.

When you apply online, you will get a confirmation page after you click the "Submit" button on the last page of the application. This page provides important information that you are responsible for reading and understanding. If you have any questions about the information, call **800-318-6022** and follow the prompts.

You may have your benefit payments deposited directly into your bank account by enrolling online at: www.esd.wa.gov/uibenefits/benefitcheck/direct-deposit.php.

Benefit payments usually begin arriving about three weeks after an application is submitted.



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